in

A conflict which would not crystallise, was thought to have crystallised in the Spanish Civil War. Here, it seemed, was a clear issue—between the defenders and destroyers of Democracy, between constitutional and arbitrary authority, between freedom and servitude. The cause of the Spanish Republican Government was warmly espoused by enlightened opinion; the cause of the Insurgents,[17] by unenlightened. General Franco sent his Moors into battle to fight for Christianity, Mussolini sent his legionaries to save Spain from Communism; the International Brigade, composed largely of Communists and Communist sympathisers, fought to make Spain safe for Democracy, and Spaniards fought, it may be assumed, for the most part because they had to. Dis-inclined to fight for or against Christianity, Democracy, Com-munism, or, indeed, anything at all, the British Government adopted a policy of non-intervention, to which twenty-seven other Governments were invited, and consented to adhere, though mostly intervening—"Let there be no war!' and now: 'Let there be non-intervention!' Much blood was shed and much suffering endured, without any of the causes invoked receiving any appreciable benefit.[18]

[17] As in the case of the Abyssinian conflict, the nomenclature used indicated the sympathies felt. The Republican side was commonly designated 'the Reds' by sympathisers with General Franco, and 'the Loyalists' by its own sympathisers; the Insurgent side was 'the Rebels' or 'the Fascists' to those who hoped for its defeat, and 'the Nationalists' to those who hoped for its victory. Neutral opinion used 'Republicans* and

'Insurgents*. 'Junta' ^or
General Franco's side, probably indicated a slight bias in its favour.

[18] Occasional voices, not infected with the prevailing confusion, were heard; for instance, a statement addressed by the Bishop of Barcelona to his flock, and quoted in *The Martyrdom of Spain* by Professor Alfred Mendizabal —'You are the ministers of a King who cannot abdicate . . . who cannot be dethroned, because He is not enthroned by the votes of men. Men did not place the crown on His head, men will not take it off. Everything falls after a time . . . thrones collapse and royal crowns roll in the mud. Alone the